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NSA review(s) completed.

6 July 1965

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting, Director of Current Intelligence  
THROUGH : Chief, Sino-Soviet Bloc Area  
FROM : Acting Chief, China and Asian Satellites  
Division

SUBJECT : Preliminary Evaluation of ☐ Mission C355C,  
Flown on 2 July 1965

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1. This mission covered several high priority targets in South China and also covered some targets in North Vietnam near the Sino-DRV border. Among the targets included in this mission was the important Pinghsiang transshipment point. However, as in the previous mission (C285C of 14 May 1965) the complex was completely cloud covered. No new missile sites were detected.

2. There were several reactions to the mission by jet fighters. At least two of these were probably MIG-21's from Nanning and one was sighted by the U-2 pilot. Of

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Air Installations

3. Haikou Airfield on the northern side of Hainan Island was covered in good cloud free photography. There has been a significant order-of-battle change since the last coverage on 14 May. This mission disclosed 7 MIG-19 (FARMER) jet fighters on the field, 1 additional probable FARMER, and 18 MIG-15/17 jet fighters as well as two light transports. In coverage of 14 May, only one MIG-19 was noted coming out of a hangar (there may have been others in the hangar) and 41 MIG-15/17 types on the field as well as several light transports. However, on 1 July

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4. Ningming airfield on the Sino-DRV border which has been under construction for some months was again photographed. Construction is continuing and no aircraft were in evidence. There had been some tenuous

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5. Another airfield may be under construction. This suspect airfield is located at Tien Yang about 95 nautical miles northwest of Nanning and about 55 nautical miles from the DRV border. Photography disclosed a scarred area about 9,000 feet long oriented NW/SE which appeared to be an airfield in the early stages of construction. At least eight groups of buildings, possibly construction buildings, were noted in the area.

#### Naval Installations

6. A number of important South Sea Fleet naval bases were covered in this mission. Included were the headquarters of the South Sea Fleet at Chanchiang, Haikou Naval Base, the bases at Ching-lan Chiang (Motor Torpedo Boat base), Peihai Naval Station, and the Lungmen naval station. No major surface-force ships were noted at any of the facilities and no submarines were in evidence.

#### Railroad Installations

7. The Ningming railroad yard was photographed but apart from some unidentified material in open storage no unusual activity was noted. Only nine rail cars were noted on a siding.

8. Sections of the Nanning/Pinghsiang rail line were covered. Three trains were noted--one consisting of 19 cars heading west and another consisting of 22 cars heading east. Another train consisting of ten cars was noted on a siding.

9. The important Pinghsiang rail transshipment point was completely cloud covered precluding interpreta-

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North Vietnamese Installations

10. This mission also covered several targets in North Vietnam. The airfield at Langson was photographed showing three LI-2 transports and five small single engine aircraft. This indicates that some of North Vietnam's transport fleet has been dispersed to this outlying airfield and the small single engine aircraft suggest that some training activity may be taking place there.

11. The Port Wallut Naval base was also photographed. This is one the more important naval bases in northern North Vietnam. Only two small boats were noted, however, which suggests that other ships normally there have either been camouflaged or dispersed.

Prepared by:

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